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BLYTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS FOR THE YEAR 1959

Medical Officer of Health	:	H. E. NUTTEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector	:	E. C. KITCHEN, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspectors	:	C. L. NATION, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B. J. C. HALE, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.

TO : THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BLYTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL:

Mr. Chairman, My Lord, My Ladies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1959.

The estimated population is again 19,100 and has remained constant for three years.

All the Rates are satisfactory.

Eight cases of tuberculosis were added to the Register during the year and fourteen cases were removed leaving a total, at the 31st December, 1959, of 63.

Measles was again the most prevalent infectious disease and accounted for over 80% of the notifications.

The new sewage disposal works at Framlingham was put into operation on the 27th November, 1959. The old disposal works is now redundant.

A trial borehole was sunk at Benhall for the supply of water to the new Sizewell Nuclear Power Station and to augment the supply to the Southern Parishes of the Rural District. The borehole is 200 feet deep and lined with 30" solid tubes, grouted in, to 98 feet and thereafter with 27" slotted tubes. On completion, the borehole was test pumped (commencing on the 20th October, 1959) to the maximum capacity of the pump (56,000 gallons per hour = 1·35 million gallons per day). It is estimated that the borehole is capable of yielding 62,500 gallons per hour (1·5 million gallons per day).

Tenders have been invited for a second borehole and a pumping station; also for mains from Benhall to Saxmundham and Sizewell, and it is anticipated that the work will be put in hand in 1960.

The information in this report on food premises, shops, factories, housing, etc., is completed by the Public Health Inspectors, to whom I am indebted.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

H. E. NUTTEN.

Council Offices,
Rendham Road,
Saxmundham.

7th June, 1960.

Tel. No: SAXMUNDHAM 2281/2.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	98,184
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1959)..	19,100
Number of inhabited houses	6,698
Rateable Value	£137,720
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated)..	£537

	Blyth R.D.	England & Wales
LIVE BIRTHS:		
Number	297	-
Rate per 1,000 population	15.5	16.5
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS per cent of total live births	2.7	+
STILLBIRTHS:		
Number	5	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16.5	20.7
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	302	-
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year)	3	-
INFANT MORTALITY RATES:		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	10.1	22.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	10.3	+
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL	+
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	3.4	15.8
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	3.4	+
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	19.8	+
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	NIL	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	NIL	0.38

+ Not yet available.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
TOTAL	150	147	297
Legitimate	145	144	289
Illegitimate	5	3	8

STILL BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
TOTAL	4	1	5
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
TOTAL	2	1	3
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
TOTAL	1	-	1
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
TOTAL	1	-	1
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
DEATHS - ALL AGED	124	138	262

R A T E S

	Blyth R.D.	England & Wales
Illegitimacy rate (per 1,000 live births)	26.9	+
Adjusted Birth Rate	18.1	-
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.8	11.6
Adjusted Death Rate	9.7	-

Comparability Factor (Births) 1.17
" " (Deaths) 0.70

+ Figure not yet available.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

SEX	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATH
F	1 Month	R. Heart Failure
M	1 Month	Prematurity
M	8 Hours	Prematurity

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	5	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	1	9
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	7	19
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	25	41
18. Coronary disease, angina	17	11	28
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
20. Other heart disease	23	38	61
21. Other circulatory diseases	5	8	13
22. Influenza	2	5	7
23. Pneumonia	4	5	9
24. Bronchitis	8	5	13
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2	3
Carried Forward	107	123	230

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Brought Forward ...	107	123	230
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	10	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
34. All other accidents	3	3	6
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations or war	-	-	-
	124	138	262

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS DURING THE YEARS 1952 - 1959

YEAR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION
1952	1	2	3	0.15
1953	1	-	1	0.05
1954	3	-	3	0.15
1955	-	-	-	-
1956	6	1	7	0.36
1957	4	-	4	0.20
1958	4	-	4	0.20
1959	8	1	9	0.41
TOTAL	27	4	31	

ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATE : COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local birth rates are expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a population tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardization of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor gives the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, are also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterile populations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.

TABLE SHOWING THE MORE IMPORTANT CAUSES OF DEATH, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES.

CAUSE OF DEATH	NO: OF DEATHS		PERCENTAGE	
	1958	1959	1958	1959
Diseases of circulatory system	126	105	44.52	40.07
Vascular lesions of nervous system..	44	41	15.54	15.64
Malignant diseases	47	40	16.60	15.26
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	15	22	5.30	8.39
Influenza	2	7	0.70	2.67
All other causes	49	47	17.31	17.93
TOTAL	283	262	99.97	99.96

In 1959 71% of all deaths fell under the first three headings. The comparable figure for 1958 was 81% and for 1957 was 81%.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	YEAR									
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Population	19,460	19,460	19,430	19,350	19,400	19,350	19,210	19,100	19,100	19,100
No: of Inhabited Houses	6,472	6,530	6,675	6,760	6,868	6,967	6,868	6,635	6,661	6,698
No: of Live Births	285	316	281	295	281	271	264	299	324	297
Birth Rate (crude)	14.6	16.2	14.5	15.2	14.5	14.0	13.2	15.7	16.9	15.5
No: of Still Births	8	6	8	8	7	6	8	7	9	5
Maternal mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant mortality rate	21.5	25.3	32.0	13.5	28.5	0	34.0	6.7	12.3	10.1
(No: of deaths)	(6)	(8)	(9)	(4)	(8)	(0)	(9)	(2)	(4)	(3)
No: of deaths (all ages)	279	283	259	259	276	274	254	251	283	262
Death Rate (crude)	14.3	14.5	13.3	13.3	14.2	14.2	13.2	13.1	14.8	13.8

Number of all confirmed cases of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1959 according to age and sex.

A G E	ACUTE PNEUMONIA			SCARLET FEVER			WHOOPING COUGH			MEASLES			DYSENTERY (SONNE)			PUERPERAL PYREXIA		ERYSIPELAS			SALMONELLA FOOD POISONING		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Under 1	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	4	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	14	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	3	9	10	19	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
5 - 9	-	-	-	8	5	13	3	8	11	86	84	170	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	34	25	59	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	7	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
25 - 44	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-
65 or over	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
T O T A L	6	6	12	12	6	18	7	13	20	159	150	309	4	7	11	3	3	2	2	4	-	1	1

M 190 + F 188 = 378

Diseases notified during the year, classified according to month of occurrence.

	ACUTE PNEUMONIA	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	MEASLES	DYSENTERY (SONNE)	PUERPERAL PYREXIA	ERYSIPELAS	FOOD POISON
January	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	10	-	1	-	-	-	-
March	7	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
April	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-
May	1	1	-	102	1	-	-	-
June	3	-	-	112	3	1	-	-
July	-	1	-	18	-	-	-	-
August	-	-	9	11	-	-	-	-
September	-	-	-	16	1	-	-	1
October	-	1	-	13	-	-	2	-
November	-	-	1	10	2	-	-	-
December	-	1	3	24	3	1	-	-
T O T A L	12	18	20	309	11	3	4	1

GRAND TOTAL = 378

Diphtheria Immunisation.

In Blyth Rural District in 1959, 251 primary immunisations were carried out by the Child Welfare Clinics and General Practitioners. The ages of the children immunised were as follows:-

YEAR OF BIRTH	NUMBERS IMMUNISED
1959	63
1958	160
1957	19
1956	6
1955	-
1954	-
1953	1
1952	-
1951	1
1950	1
1949	-
1948	-
1945 - 1947	-
TOTAL	251

During the same year 150 "booster" doses were given.

Primary Immunisation :-

1958	235
1957	293
1956	224
1955	279
1954	282

TUBERCULOSIS

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
No: of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1958.	34	4	21	10	69
No: of cases added during the year	3	1	2	2	8
No: of cases removed during the year	8	-	4	2	14
No: of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1959	29	5	19	10	63

CASES ADDED TO THE REGISTER		CASES REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER	
New notifications	= 7	Recovered	= 9
Inward transfers	= 1	Died	= 3
		Removed to other areas	= 2
TOTAL	= 8	TOTAL	= 14

CASES ON THE REGISTER, ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX AT 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

AGE GROUP	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 5 years	1	1	2
5 - 14 years	3	3	6
15 - 24 years	4	8	12
25 - 44 years	9	7	16
44 - 64 years	11	6	17
65 years and over	5	2	7
Age unknown	1	2	3
	34	29	63

1. HOUSING.

(a) Total No: of houses inspected during the year for all purposes 425

(b) Total No: of houses found to be unsatisfactory 332

(c) Nature of defects found to exist ..... Structural and cleanliness

(d) Housing repairs:

(i) Informal.

No: of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served 272
(Letters = 130; Verbal = 142)

No: of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action 185

(ii) Formal - Public Health Acts.

No: of dwellings in respect of which notices were served ..... -

No: of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners ..... -

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..... -

(iii) Formal - Housing Acts.

No: of dwellings in respect of which notices were served 53

No: of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners 20

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..... -

(e) Clearance Areas.

	No: of dwelling houses demolished	No: of houses included in Clearance Orders made during the year.
Areas coloured pink	-	-
Areas coloured grey	-	-

(f) Individual Houses.

No: of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	13
No: of dwellings demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	15
No: of dwellings in respect of which or part of which Closing Orders were made (Section 12 Housing Act, 1936)	-
No: closed under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1953)	15
No: of undertakings not to relet accepted	9
No: of houses still occupied for human habitation in respect of which demolition or clearance orders have been made	83

(g) Provision of new Housing Accommodation.

	By Local Authority		By Private Enterprise	
	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary
1. No: of houses in respect of which tenders were approved by Ministry during 1959.	NIL	-		
2. No: of houses completed during the year	22	-	26	-
3. No: of houses in course of construction on 31.12.59.	NIL	-	27	1
4. Total No: of houses owned by Council on 31.12.59.	954	50 Prefabs.		

(h) New houses allocated for slum clearance purposes in 1959 22

(i) No: allocated in 1960 estimated programme 10

(j) Housing Act, 1949, Part II.

(i) Improvements.

	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise
Number of dwellings in respect of which applications for grant were (a) made during 1959	NIL	S. 19 D. 122
(b) approved by Council during 1959	NIL	S. 18 D. 122

S = Standard Grants
D = Discretionary Grants

(ii) Provision of dwellings by conversion.

	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise
Number of dwellings in respect of which applications for grant were:- (a) made during 1959	NIL	4
(b) approved by Council during 1959	NIL	4

(k) Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding.

No: of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year 3

No: of cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... NIL

No: of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2

(l) Rent Increase.

No: of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair (Sec: 26 - Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) 3

No: of Certificates issued 1

(m) Guarantees for House Purchase.

No: of applications received for Guarantees (Sec: 5, Housing Act, 1949) 1

No: of Guarantees issued 1

(n) Postponed Demolition, etc. (Sections 2-5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

No: of houses acquired by Local Authority (Sec. 3)	-
No: of houses retained (Sec. 4)	-
No: of houses where demolition is postponed ..... (Sec. 2)	-
No: of houses where demolition is postponed ..... (Sec: 5).	6

2. FOOD PREMISES.

(a) The number of food premises in the area and type of business (approx):-

Grocery and General	82
Bakers	5
Butchers	14
Public Houses selling Ice Cream	6
Ice Cream only	2
Cafes	13
Fishmongers	2
Greengrocers	4
TOTAL	128

(b) No: of premises inspected	128
(c) No: of inspections made	159
(d) No: found to be unsatisfactory	55
(e) No: rendered satisfactory:-	
(1) Informally	34
(2) Formally	-
(f) No: of premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-	
(1) Ice Cream - Manufacture	-
Storage or Sale only	76
(2) Sausages, preserved food, etc.	4
(g) No: of Ice Cream samples taken for bacteriological examination	-
No: of samples found to be unsatisfactory	-
(h) No: of Dairies Registered	8
(i) No: of Milk Dealers Licences issued:-	
(i) Pasteurised	13
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	14
(iii) Sterilised	3
(j) No: of licensed slaughterhouses	6

3. FOOD INSPECTION.

(a) Meat Inspected:

Is 100% inspection being carried out ..... Yes

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No: killed	867	45	65	511	1050	-
No: inspected	867	45	65	511	1050	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	1	1	7	4	12	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	58	6	7	2	66	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	6.805	15.555	21.538	1.174	7.428	
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	19	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.230	-	-	-	1.905	
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Brief Analysis of "Other causes" :-
Decomposed, Moribund, Multiple Abscesses, Broken legs, Emaciated, Cirrhosis, Arthritis, Calloused, Bruised, Fatty degeneration, Pylo-nephritis, Pneumonia, Liver Fluke, Septic Metritis Peritonitis, Oedema, Arrived dead, Milk spots, Uraemia, Fractures, Eczema, Erysipelas, Blown, Umbilical Pyaemia, Retention cysts, Necrosis, Pericarditis.

(b) Other Foods condemned:-

28 lbs. Fresh Cod
4 lbs. Tinned Chopped Pork
12 lbs. Ham

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food:-

Meat: Suffolk Fat and Bone Co. Other Foods: Refuse Tips.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH (General).

Moveable Dwellings

No: of site licences : 3 No: of Individual Licences : 52

No: of Inspections during the year: (a) Sites 2

(b) Dwellings 3

No: of contraventions remedied ..... -

Rats and Mice Destruction.

No: of inspections : Notified 156
Otherwise 5,245

Rat Infestations: Major 172
Minor 722

Mice only 24

No: treated 723

No: of Block treatments 194

No: of premises treated: (a) Dwellinghouses 176

(b) Other premises 31

Disinfection, etc.

No: of premises disinfected 3

No: of premises disinfested 16

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Frequency of collection ..... Fortnightly (Weekly in 7 parishes).

Method of disposal ..... Refuse tip

Is night soil collection undertaken? ..... No

Is cesspool emptying undertaken? ..... Yes

Water Supply.

No: of water samples taken:-

Public Water Supplies (Mains)	- Bacteriological	24
	- Chemical	2
	- Mineral	-
	- Iron	8
Private Water Supplies	- Bacteriological	39
	- Chemical	9
	- Iron	-
17. Nitrate Analysis	- Under 20 p.p.m.	16
	- 20 p.p.m. and over	7

Drainage, etc.

No: of new sewer connections made 89

No: of conversions to W.C. (Public Health Act, 1936, Section 47) ..... -

5. SHOPS ACT, 1950 (Section 38).

Number of shops inspected 115

Contravention found ..... -

Contravention remedied ..... -

6. FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959.

(a) INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	8	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	7	45	4	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	-	3	-
T O T A L	22	53	7	-

(b) Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	7	7	-	3	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L	7	7	-	3	-

7. OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No: of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No: of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No: of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No: of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning & Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Items Listed	-	-	-	-	-	-